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To: Microsoft ATR
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The problem here is that a universal operating system is not necessarily a bad thing. Government interference in the market place is not necessarily a good thing either. It is not uncommon for the heavy hand of governmental power to actually bring about an undesirable outcome, though good was intended. If the Windows operating system is so bad, then why does the government express no confidence in the ability of the market place to spawn a remedy? Linux is an alternative to Windows and enjoys growing acceptance as well as ongoing development. The government also seems to ignore the fact that personal computers can be set up to use multiple operating systems. So what is the problem? The charge against Microsoft which characterizes the integral nature of Internet Explorer as somehow illegal completely fails to recognize an important fact; every time a browser is launched a user chooses to click on an icon. My computer has icons for three different internet browsers and I am free to select whichever one I choose. To say Microsoft has a monopoly because their browser cannot be removed is simply ridiculous. Another absurdity in these proceedings is that nowhere does the government explore the benefits consumers reap from an integral browser. This case is a total waste of taxpayer money and should be dropped altogether. It is an embarrassment to our country to have conducted this trial in the first place. Such a suit is yet another hallmark of a truly misguided and ignorant administration. The current administration would do well to get as much distance as possible from the prosecution of this case. It is not something to be bragged about or pointed to as an example of responsible discharge of public duty.

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